

CITY OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

CLASS SPECIFICATION

FIREFIGHTER

3101

GENERAL PURPOSE: This is fire suppression, investigative and preventive inspection, and emergency medical aid work.

Performs a variety of life and property protection work through the suppression and prevention of fires and in response to emergency aid calls on a shift. At the scene of a fire, work is performed under hazardous conditions involving smoke, heat, and cramped surroundings, generally requiring strenuous physical exertion. At the scene of a medical emergency or accident, firefighters attend to the public under stressful conditions involving trauma, suffering, and personal tragedies. New employees receive on-the-job training as a Firefighter 5th class and progress to Firefighter 1st Class.

CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY: Direct supervision of other full-time employees is not a responsibility of positions in this classification. However, experienced employees may be assigned to research a topic and conduct training sessions for career and reserve firefighters, direct reserves at the scene until relieved by an officer, and direct reserves on all ambulance calls. Reports to a Fire Captain who is the shift officer. Close supervision is required initially; however, as training and experience is gained, the degree of supervision lessens with the employee assigned a task which is performed with considerable independence. Work performance is reviewed for the knowledge demonstrated during drills and training sessions, for the quality of emergency medical attention provided, and for the quality of daily activities performed.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Drives ambulance in all weather and traffic conditions in a safe manner and as quickly as possible; provides emergency medical treatment in the field and in transit to medical facilities within certification level; disentangles and extricates individuals at the scene of an accident using common and specialized hand and power tools; fills out and maintains ambulance records; coordinates multi-agency response on alarms outside the city limits.

Conducts daily and weekly vehicle and equipment maintenance repairs or reports needed repairs to an officer; completes and routes forms and reports.

Drives apparatus to scene of fire; controls and extinguishes fire and hazardous chemicals using water, chemicals, dry powders and gases; protects life and property by controlling hazardous situations, evacuating people, and moving property or protecting with covers; selects hose and nozzle to use and directs to extinguish fires; positions and climbs ladders to gain access to upper levels of buildings or to assist people to exit structures; creates openings in buildings for ventilation or entrance using hand or power tools; fills out and processes fire reports.

Inspects businesses, single and multi-family residences, and student housing for compliance with city ordinances; investigates fires to determine probable cause.

Prepares for, conducts, or participates in training sessions; maintains fire station equipment and grounds including routine housekeeping and maintenance duties such as painting, mopping, cleaning, and general repairs.

Makes presentations to the public on an assigned subject.

Attends work on a regular and dependable basis.

Interacts in a professional and respectful manner with city staff and the public.

OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS:

Performs other tasks as assigned.

SELECTION FACTORS:

(Applicants should describe their previous experience and training for each of the following selection factors. These factors will be the basis for selecting the most qualified applicants to be interviewed. Candidates selected for employment must satisfactorily demonstrate possession of these factors during a prescribed probationary period, and afterwards, for continued employment.)

- Ability to read, comprehend, and apply a variety of fire suppression, prevention, inspection, and emergency medical materials and information.
- Ability to perform a variety of mechanical operations.
- Ability to reason and react quickly and calmly in emergency situations or situations involving personal danger.
- Ability to perform prolonged and arduous work under adverse working conditions.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Ability to learn and apply a variety of firefighting duties and methods, as well as skill in the use of firefighting equipment within a reasonable work test period.
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Physical strength and agility sufficient to perform the essential functions of the job.
- Possession of a valid Emergency Medical Technician certificate (BLS) or a valid EMT Defibrillator certification, Airway certification, and IV certification (ILS) or a valid EMT Paramedic certification (ALS).
- Possession of a valid driver's license and a safe driving record.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

(Persons applying for a position of this class should have any combination of the following experience and training.)

Any experience or education which would demonstrate the ability to read, comprehend, and apply a variety of instructions, regulations, and procedures, and the ability to learn to perform the work.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

(For a detailed list of tools and equipment used, please refer to a current position description.)

Emergency medical aid unit, fire apparatus, fire pumps, hoses, and other standard firefighting equipment, ladders, first aid equipment, radio, pager, personal computer, phone, copy machine, fax machine.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

(The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.)

Work is performed primarily in office, vehicle and outdoor settings, in all weather conditions, including temperature extremes, during day and night shifts. Work is often performed in emergency and stressful situations. Work is occasionally performed in confined spaces and/or in complete darkness. Individual is exposed to hearing alarms and hazards associated with fighting fires and rendering emergency medical assistance, including smoke, noxious odors, fumes, chemicals, liquid chemicals, solvents and oils.

The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts and in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, risk of electrical shock, and vibration. The employee is occasionally required to climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 40 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 150 pounds.

The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in office settings, and loud at an emergency scene.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Adopted: 9/82 Revised: 5/94, 10/98, 08/01, 12/01, 09/07